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A great big heart-felt thank you to all the committee chairs who worked so hard to get their reports to me in a timely manner! It greatly reduced the stress of having to leave at such a busy time and allowed me to get it all done early this year. I truly appreciate all your hard work.

**Heidi Tucker
Office Manager**

EWCC Annual Meeting (on Zoom) – Sunday, January 30, 2022

Call to the Annual Meeting at 11:04am was read by Kerstin Forrester. Kerstin Forrester served as the Moderator. Pastor Sue Foster led the congregation in the Prayer for the Annual Meeting. Pastor Sue Foster read the Covenant for Working and Worshipping Together. Kerstin explained that voting would take place by acclamation. There were approximately 30 people in attendance on Zoom.

The **minutes** of the January 31, 2021, Annual Meeting were reviewed. No changes were made. A motion was made by Glen Lessig and seconded by Dawn Adiletta to accept the minutes as written. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

The **Pastor's Report** was given. Pastor Sue thanked the congregation for accomplishing so much during such challenging times. She expressed her gratitude for everyone's care during her sick times and sabbatical time.

The **Nominating Committee** gave their report and opened nominations up. The committee Chair, Christine Lessig, expressed a need for support on the Christian Education and Youth Ministry committees; the need for an Assistant Clerk, and to fix Lynn Lobby to Lynn Looby. **Vote:** Valerie Law made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee slate of nominees with the changes made. Judith Wong seconded the motion. The congregation approved the motion by acclamation.

Committee Reports:

Deacons – report submitted.

Council – report submitted.

Music – report submitted.

Outreach – report submitted. Christine Lessig remarked how so many amazing people continued to support Outreach which was tremendous to see, because it touches so many lives.

Cradle Roll – report submitted.

Christian Education – report submitted. Jessica Weaver Boose expressed her gratitude for Erica Hermonot and all she has done for Christian Ed. The church is thrilled to have Jessica as our new CE Director!

Youth Ministry – report submitted. Anne Sorensen stated that she looks forward to teaming up with Jessica Weaver Boose on some upcoming Youth Group projects.

Ladies Benevolent Society – report submitted. Kerstin Forrester thanked all of the Holly Fair supporters. Judith Wong thanked LBS for their support and especially the purchase of the tables and chairs as well as the sanctuary refurbishment donation.

Jamboree – report submitted. Pastor Sue Foster is hopeful that we will have some form of Jamboree this year!

Memorial – report submitted.

Historian – report submitted.

Hospitality – report submitted.

Altar Guild – report submitted.

Book Group – Anne Sorensen announced that the book group would meet 2/28 at 7pm to discuss Becoming Nicole by Amy Ellis Nut.

Clerk – Report submitted.

Collector – Report submitted.

Society – report submitted. Glen Lessig thanked Rick Place for doing a great job leading the committee and thanked him for his support in completing the report.

- a. Judith Wong gave an update on the renovation of the Sanctuary and Narthex. The goal is to update the spaces in order to meet the practical needs of worship but remain true to the historical and architectural integrity of the space. The Refurbishment Committee will make recommendations to the Council and congregation, based on the input received. The Committee received 20 responses to their survey, and those comments and the comments from this meeting will guide us forward. Judith thanked the members of the Refurbishment Team including Diane Billings, Dawn Adiletta, Valerie Law, Glen Lessig, DeEtta Spalding, and Amy White. The committee did a walk through with Mary Lou Davis and she offered some initial ideas about layouts, lighting, balconies, carpeting and air quality. Judith thanked Glen Lessig, Jeff Wong for sound system upgrade work and Val Law for filming the

services each week. She also thanked Val Law, John Davis and Natalie Eichner for learning how to work the new system.

Voting on Committee Reports – A motion was made by John Davis and seconded by Amy Hiller White to accept all committee reports as submitted. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by acclimation.

- b. **Financial Reports** – DeEtta Spalding, EWCC Treasurer, reported on all of the financials in the Annual Report. Some of the highlights that DeEtta reported included that the church is financially secure. The EWCC was able to meet their budget for 2021. We ended the year with an \$11,034 surplus. The 2022 budget is based on 81 pledgers; the budget includes a 4% salary increase for staff; there will be a slight increase in facilities budget due to utilities costs; a slight increase in the Pastor’s budget because she will not be on sabbatical this year; it is proposed that some of the surplus will go to the Outreach budget; the septic system at the parsonage will be replaced this spring; the installation of the video equipment with help from LBS; there are also some unanticipated costs like the software to run the video equipment; and the remaining Lily Grant funds will be spent. Judith Wong and Glen Lessig thanked DeEtta Spalding for working tirelessly to help the church maintain its financial health. One correction DeEtta made to the Cash report was that the Cox Fund is actually at Bank Hometown.

Voting on Budget items –

a) A motion was made by Amy Hiller White and seconded by Pam Brown that the surplus of the 2021 budget in the amount of \$14,334.19 of which \$7034.19 is allocated for Conference dues; \$3300.00 is allocated for the Outreach committee in 2022; \$4000 is set aside for Maintenance Operation Reserve. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously by acclimation.

b) A motion was made by Amy Hiller White and seconded by Dawn Adiletta to approve \$20,400 for the housing allowance for the Pastor in the 2022 budget. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously by acclimation.

c) A motion was made by Diane Billings and seconded by Pam Brown to accept the 2022 budget as it has been presented by our Treasurer. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously by acclimation.

d) A motion was made by Dawn Adiletta and seconded by George Brown to make some changes to the EWCC By-laws to add an Assistant Collector position; update some of the language in the bylaws; and to change the audit dates. No discussion. The motion was passed unanimously by acclimation.

Dawn Adiletta made a motion which was seconded by Valerie Law to adjourn the Annual meeting at 11:48 am. So moved.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Armstrong
EWCC Council Clerk

Annual Report of the Pastor

My star gift in 2022 was “hope.” And hope was what we needed to combat the lingering after-effects of the pandemic. 2022 was a year of rebuilding. Many people and programs were displaced following months of lock-down, online only services, separation, and isolation. But we are resurrection people who place our trust in the God who makes all things new. God’s steadfast love which endures forever has been the source of our hope.

And so, we have been doing the work of rebuilding. We have placed a great deal of focus on fellowship as we recognized our need to reconnect. We are stronger together, so we needed ways to reintroduce ourselves to each other again. Some highlights have included restarting the monthly Men’s Breakfast (thank you to chef Windsor White and organizer Roger Solomon), restarting our in-person Bible study, and gathering again for coffee hour after worship to encourage fellowship and conversation. I set the goal of inviting groups of 10 women to come to my home for breakfast; so far over 50 people have attended and we have enjoyed laughter and connections (if you haven’t gotten your invitation yet, please be patient – the breakfasts will continue in 2023!). Amy Hiller-White, Anne Sorensen, and Dorrie Scranton invited the whole church to dinner –

more than 100 people gathered in Fellowship Hall for lasagna and fellowship. Jessica Weaver Boose hosted our first-ever Advent pizza party that combined good food, crafts, and some learning that resulted in the request to make this an annual event. Our annual Jeans Sunday offered us the opportunity not only to clean and care for our church building but also experience the satisfaction of working together. Our Stewardship Committee reminded us of our many blessings as we took time to express our gratitude and offer God our praise. The fellowship and connections that we share as a congregation enable us to work together to share the hope and love of our still-speaking God.

The evidence of rebuilding is clear – everywhere you look in our congregation, there are signs of new life. Worship attendance is growing again. Families are gradually returning, and children are enjoying Sunday School with Jessica Weaver Boose.

We still have work to do, particularly in the areas of the church that were most affected by the pandemic. That includes offering nursery care during worship and Sunday School for our youngest children. We'll need to consider how to meet the needs of our middle and high school students. Our Altar Guild didn't need to be as active during the pandemic since we weren't serving communion or meeting in the sanctuary. As they re-group, we can wonder how best to serve the needs of our congregation. Our Hospitality Committee was not called upon during that lengthy time when we could not gather; if they are to take on the responsibility of lining up hosts for weekly coffee hour and providing memorial service receptions, they will need everyone's help.

2022 was also a year of significant loss. We said good-bye to several members of our congregation and community. In the midst of heartbreak and sorrow, this congregation offered hospitality and a loving place where people could gather to share memories and hear words of hope of eternal life. I was proud of the compassion that this congregation extended to those in need. The deacons continued this caring by hosting our Quiet Christmas service which provided time and space to acknowledge the wide range of emotions, including grief and loss, that are present during the holiday season.

As we continue to rebuild and respond to new needs, we must recognize the work of our newly formed Audio-Visual team. Jeff Wong has been a tremendous help in responding to our technical needs as we have ventured into the world of online worship. Many thanks also to Valerie Law and John Davis for learning how to use our new broadcasting equipment. This will be an ongoing and growing need – part of our rebuilding will include training more people especially when our new audio-visual system is installed.

The church is made up of the efforts of many people. Some of them always work behind the scenes and should be recognized and thanked here –

- Seth Spalding for climbing the steeple stairs and winding the clock each week. Seth also regularly checks our fire extinguishers to ensure their viability and safety.
- Heidi Tucker for being an outstanding office manager. She directs all forms of communication – newsletter, weekly reminder, weekly bulletin, and much more – that allows us to know what is going on.
- DeEtta Spalding for being an exemplary church treasurer. She keeps meticulous records that help us keep our budget on track.
- Lynn Looby and Susan Converse have taken over mailing our monthly newsletter, the Trumpet. Thanks to Dot Hill and Nancy Young for your years of faithful service!

These ups and downs, challenges and successes are all part of the experience of being the church. The church responds to the joys and trials of the current era. There is great vitality, faith, and creativity in our congregation. I am confident that with God's help this congregation will continue to flourish as we answer the call to share God's love and hope with all of God's people.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster

Nominating Report

Officers for 02/01/2023 – 01/31/2024

Council Chair: *Amy Hiller White

Clerk: Christine Armstrong

Moderator: *Dawn Adiletta

Treasurer: DeEtta Spalding

Assistant Treasurer: Lynn Lobby

Vice Chair: Tom Chenail

Assistant Clerk: *OPEN

Collector: John Davis

Assistant Collector: *OPEN

Historian: Mary Ellen Blake

Committees for 02/01/2023 – 01/31/2024

Committee members may serve up to two 3-year terms (a total of 6 years) unless otherwise noted. 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.

DEACONS (9)	Term	Year	SOCIETY (9)	Term	Year	STEWARDSHIP (6)	Term	Year
Jessica Reed	2	3	Chuck Warinsky	2	2	Greg Noë	2	3
Sherry Magnan	2	1	Rick Place	2	1	Jess Reed	2	2
Jennifer Griffin	2	1	Asa Scranton	1	2	Jaime Boisvert	2	1
Louise Labbe Fahy	1	2	Judy Wong	1	2	Dee Harless (friend)	1	3
Susan Converse	1	2	Brian Santos	1	2	*Val Law	1	1
*Mark Billings	1	1	*Calvin Neely	1	1	*OPEN	1	1
*Anne Sorensen	1	1	*OPEN	1	1			
*Taryn Tomkins	1	1	*OPEN	1	1			
*OPEN	1	1	*OPEN	1	1			
OUTREACH	Term	Year	OUTREACH (cont'd)	Term	Year	PASTORAL RELATIONS (6)	Term	Year
Diane Billings	2	2	Kerstin Forrester	1	2	Ed Baldyga	2	2
Pam Brown	2	1	Cris Waldron	1	2	Bob Rath	2	2
Andy Krofina	2	1	*Charlotte Davis	1	1	Emily Murphy	2	1
Lynn Hescheles	1	3	*Donna Baldyga	1	1	Mark Billings	1	2
Tom Stokes	1	3	*Barbara Hackett	1	1	*Valerie Law	1	1
Christine Lessig	1	3						

MUSIC (5)	Term	Year	CHRISTIAN EDUC (6)	Term	Year	NOMINATING COMMITTEE (6) (Council appoints - max term of 3 yrs)	Term	Year
Lisa Reardon	2	2	Vickie Noë	2	3	Mark Billings	1	3
Charlotte Davis	1	2	Emily Nester (Friend)	1	2	*Valerie Law	1	1
Dennis Kelly	1	1	*Karen McFarlin	1	1	*OPEN		
Windsor White (Friend)	1	1	*OPEN	1	1	*OPEN		
*OPEN	1	1	*OPEN					
Nancy Ducharme, Music Dir./Employee Andy Tomkins, Bell Choir Dir./ Employee			Jessica Weaver Boose CE Director/Employee					

ALTAR GUILD			AUDITORS (2) (Max one term of 3 years)	Year	JAMBOREE No Term Limit
Karin Tourtellotte	Term	Year	*Jeff Wong	1	Donna Baldyga
Judy Schumacher			*OPEN		Rob Brouillard
Laurie Edwards					Lynn Looby (Not Chair)
Mary Ellen Blake					DeEtta Spalding (Not Chair)
					Judith Wong
					Angela Young
					OPEN
					OPEN
HOSPITALITY			HOSPITALITY (Cont'd)		MEMORIAL COMM (no Term Limits)
No term limit at this time			Beth Baron		Judy Schumacher
Laurie Edwards (co-chair)			Charlotte Davis		OPEN
Diane Morin (co-chair)			Jill Sherman		
Nancy Young			Marilyn Rath		
Mary Ellen Blake			Barbara Hackett		
Marion Hallowell			Michele Connolly		
Barbara Morse			Windsor White (friend)		
Gail Lorentzen			Christine J Lessig		
Lynda Higgins					

Annual Report of Deacons 2022

The deacons, under the guidance of Pastor Sue Foster, continued to provide spiritual leadership and support during a significant time of transition in the life of the church. As the pandemic caused us to approach church in new and uncharted ways, so has the “reopening” of church. This reopening over the past year (since August 2021) has presented us with both challenges and opportunities. We were tasked with and continue to be tasked with reimagining what aspects of the church, both physical and interpersonal, were important to continue, as well as what aspects should be modified, eliminated or added. We explored both broad topics and minute details of these aspects. We recognized that flexibility and open mindedness were our best assets to best serve our congregation. This continues to be the case. As the church is an ever-evolving entity, it is even more so during times of transition. Changes continue to occur as the church rebuilds spiritual programming as well as outreach and social programming. Sixteen months since our reopening for in person services and events has given us much cause to celebrate. Especially since October 2022 we have seen our in-person attendance continue to increase. We recognize the immense value of providing our online services to those unable to attend in person and therefore have continued to provide “hybrid” services. We continue to explore ways to improve our technology in order to elevate the audio/visual quality of our online ministry.

- Provided both in person and online Sunday and special services.
- Supported both local and global community concerns through informational events regarding the war on Ukraine and a devastating fire of a neighboring apartment house (“The Sunshine House”) that displaced all residents. Our confirmation class and advisors, Pastor Sue and Windsor White, were onsite at the time of the fire to offer hospitality and comfort to residents and fire crew.
- Welcomed several new members - Denise Esslinger, Phil Parizeau, David Norman, Colleen Bishop, Harold Bishop
- Held special services such as Lent/Maundy Thursday, “Quiet” Christmas, Confirmation Sunday, Jazz Sunday, Music Appreciation, and Children’s Day
- Collective services were organized for Ash Wednesday with other local churches.
- Supported interfaith services and opportunities in the community.
- Supported Pastor Sue in providing “Tuesdays at Twilight” outdoor services at Roseland Park during summer months.
- Partnered with The First Congregational Church of Woodstock (“The Hill Church”) for summer services.
- Continuous discussion and exploration to rebuild the committees and services, i.e. Christian Education: Sunday School and confirmation.
- Assisted with Rally Day to kick off the start of the new Sunday School Year.
- Provided masks, sanitizer and made modifications to taking offering, serving communion and fellowship hour that followed current (and changing CDC guidelines) to facilitate best health practices.
- Participated in the baptisms of Axel, Otis, and Fitz Lurvey.
- Continued to support and make recommendations for the IT “crew” in order to provide the highest quality sound possible in person and online A/V experience for worshippers.

2022 Deacons include: Jessica Reed, Amy Hiller-White Mary Ellen Blake, Amy Hiller-White, Louise Labe-Fahy, Valerie Law, Susan Converse, Jennifer Griffin and Sherry Magnan

We are grateful for the contributions of Val Law and Amy Hiller-White as their Deacon terms come to a close.

Council Annual Report 2022

Thankfully, 2022 was significantly quieter for the Council than 2021! We held meetings in January, March, May, August, October, and November—half the rate of 2021 when we were processing pandemic policies regularly.

The topics of our meetings returned to normal where committees shared updates on their activities for the purposes of communication, coordination, and assistance where needed. We were able to ratify by-laws changes proposed by Society at last year's Annual Meeting including the creation of the assistant treasurer position, and officially filled committee vacancies during the year.

Many thanks to everyone for taking time out of their busy lives to give their time and talents to the Church. Our regular participants included: Pastor Sue, Anne Sorensen, Christine Armstrong, Chuck Warinsky, John Davis, Kerstin Forrester, Jessica Weaver Boose, and Jen Griffin.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Council Chair. It seems like a million years ago in the Spring of 2020 when Sue approached me with “Uh, with this pandemic thing, we better get the Church Council going...” Remember those days when we wondered if it would all be over by the summer? Today, I look around and I see a church that is as vibrant as ever—a tribute to all of you!

Respectfully Submitted in Christ,

Jeff Wong, Chair

Memorial Committee Report

With love and appreciation, we acknowledge those members and friends listed in our Memorial Book in 2022:

Doris Benton, Frank Converse, Bernice Sheldon, Dexter Young

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

Music Committee 2022 Annual Report

2022 saw the return of a “normal” following the COVID-19 pandemic. The church services were held in person and online and the choirs and special musicians provided music for our worship services.

Jazz Sunday returned in February with the Jazz Band lead by Phil Palonen performing during the service. Their exuberant, soulful music enhanced our service and embraced a moving way of lifting our hearts and prayers to God. Sarah Jo Burke and Bill Reid performed at the Tuesday at Twilight Services held in the summer. A special thanks to Sarah Jo Burke, Tomkins Family Ringers, Rick LaMarre, and Jeff Wong for providing music for the August union services with the First Congregational Church of Woodstock. Heather Santos and Lynn Looby sang duets throughout the year and the congregation also enjoyed special music during the Communion services performed by Sarah Jo Burke.

After practicing *Milele* since 2019, the Bell Choir was finally able to perform the piece in May with the Adult Choir. The Bell Choir said goodbye to two teens moving off to college and welcomed three new ringers. The Adult Choir also said goodbye to a few members and welcomed new ones. Anyone interested in learning more about the Choirs should reach out to Nancy Ducharme or Andy Tomkins.

With deep appreciation and gratitude, we want to thank Nancy Ducharme, Andy Tomkins, the members of our Adult Choir and Bell Choir, and Sarah Jo Burke who perform beautiful, expressive music throughout the year. Their dedication and talent is truly a blessing to our church.

Lynn Looby, member
Music Committee

EWCC Outreach Committee 2022 Annual Report

“Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. . . “ Matthew 6:33

“We are each other’s harvest; we are each other’s business; we are each other’s magnitude and bond.” Gwendolyn Brooks (in the book Home Made by Liz Hauck)

Once again, the generosity of our congregation in 2022 continued to enable the Outreach Committee to help those in our church, our local community, and people around the world. Whether we asked for food, towels, toys, bed linens, furniture, or clothing, the donations arrived quickly and in abundance. **YOU** make our work possible. Your gifts make a difference in people’s lives, and for this we are humbled and grateful.

In addition to continuing with our on-going projects which you will read about below, Outreach made huge strides in “revitalizing” our corner in Fellowship Hall. Thanks to the vision of Pam and George Brown and assisted by Lynn Hescheles, we now have a beautiful rolling cart designed by Pam and built by George to help contain donations that arrive daily. The top allows for display or extra collection space, while the bins on the lower level keep items separated by category. Heartfelt thanks to Pam, George, and Lynn for the care they took with this project.

The committee also worked to revise the Outreach Mission Statement so that it more accurately reflects what we do. We approved the following at our October meeting and will submit it at the January 29, 2023 Annual Meeting of the congregation for their approval:

The mission of the Outreach Committee is to share God’s love, hope and healing, and to support our neighbors. We serve as the outreach arm of our Church, soliciting, gathering, and distributing support of all kinds according to the needs of the members of our Church, the community, and the world. We believe in effecting change through hands-on community involvement, engaging our congregation to share in the joy and grace of generous giving.

The **on-going projects** are the backbone of our Outreach. In 2022, **food support** continued to be a huge part of our activities:

First Friday Food Fair continues to be a popular resource for many people. We have adjusted the hours, purchased a small tent to protect the food and shoppers from the elements, revised some policies, and have set-up and take-down procedures in place.

The Caring Continues provides food for families of children in the Woodstock school system who need assistance. In order to be more responsive to their needs, we change the type of food we collect as requested by the coordinator, Dave Magee of The Evangelical Covenant Church. Thanks to Karen Ryker and Lynn Hescheles who go when needed to pack the bags sent home with the children.

Community Kitchen - EWCC continues to provided one meal per month at First Congregational Church Woodstock under the capable leadership of Kerstin Forrester and Barbara Hackett and their crew of Barbara Bocchino, Susan Converse, Andy Krofina, and Cris Waldron. For most of the year the meals were distributed through the drive-through, serving over 150 lunches per day. In the fall, people could come inside once again. The number of meals has decreased by about half.

Freezer Meals - Thanks to generous cooks in the congregation, we maintain a supply of meals that can be given to those experiencing illness or difficult circumstances.

Take Them a Meal - This web site continues to help us organize meals for people who need assistance for a limited amount of time.

TEEG - ‘Supporting Wellness at Pantry’ (SWAP) - April 10, 2022, was “Bring Your Cooler to Church Sunday.”

TEEG brought a truck over to pick up frozen foods for use at their pantry. It was a very successful collection, supplemented by \$200.00 worth of meat donated by the Outreach Committee.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS - Baskets filled with food donated by the congregation and supplemented by Outreach were delivered to Covenant to Care (18) and to local families (6).

OTHER ON-GOING OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

COVENANT TO CARE FOR CHILDREN - Liaison Pam Brown works with social workers Jeanne Murphy and Matt Gilbert to provide for children and families in the following ways:

- Easter Baskets for 11 children were filled by our congregation
- Gift cards provided for a foster mom who had to leave work to care for her child who was in an accident
- Thanksgiving Baskets were provided for 18 families
- Christmas gifts provided for 21 children

WAIM (WINDHAM AREA INTERFAITH MINISTRIES) - Liaison Andy Krofina volunteers weekly at WAIM, and EWCC supports its ministries through financial donations and workdays on site. It seems that Andy's vehicles are always loaded when she goes there taking everything from a changing table to toys to baby clothes! The coat drive has yielded 30 coats so far.

EMERGENCY SHELTER/NO FREEZE SHELTER - Many towels were delivered to the shelter this spring after our towel collection. Our liaison, Diane Billings, delivered 8 gift cards for children in the Emergency Shelter, donated by the congregation, and 23 gift cards for the adults.

TRANSPORTATION TEAM - Several members of the congregation have formed a transportation team to take people in our congregation back and forth to various appointments and for unique needs.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER - After an absence of over two years, the DVS reopened in our area this fall. Per their request, Outreach purchased \$100 worth of towels which were delivered by liaison Cris Waldron. The congregation provided toys for children at the shelter and gifts for four children at Christmas.

PRAYER SHAWLS made by our band of knitters continue to provide comfort and support to those going through difficult situations. Thirty were distributed this year.

The **CARD MINISTRY** is headed faithfully by Karen Ryker and Pam Brown who send out approximately 35 cards per month to members and friends who are homebound, ill, mourning a loss, or just needing some cheer. Their encouragement is deeply appreciated by the recipients.

PARR (Putnam Area Refugee Resettlement): Led by liaisons Karen Ryker and Kerstin Forrester, EWCC partnered with Congregation B'nai Shalom to furnish two bedrooms in the apartment being readied for the Afghan refugee family. Outreach provides financial support for the family of 5 who arrived this summer, while Karen and Kerstin offer guidance about the logistics of navigating life in a new culture.

TEEG - In addition to the food support provided in April with the "Cooler Sunday," we partnered with First Congregational Church Woodstock and delivered over 500 school supply items to TEEG in August.

LBGTQ- One of the highlights of the year was having two members of the Gender and Sexuality Alliance at Woodstock Academy speak at our worship service in February. We presented them with a check for \$200 that day and sent another check for \$565 (from Jazz Sunday offering) for GSA's work at WA. Liaison Tom Stokes was instrumental in obtaining copies of three different books about the LBGTQ experience that are available at our church. Tom also connected the GSA advisor at WA with a local counselor who will be able to provide needed services to students.

WORLD VISION - Our congregation sponsors a child through this organization. Children in our Sunday school have been communicating with Alioune, a three-year old child from Africa. Several letters have gone back and forth.

KIVA - Liaison Christine Lessig reports that we have 5 micro-loans in process to assist women in entrepreneurial endeavors in Guatemala, Kenya, Sierra Leone, and Bolivia.

As the year closes, the Outreach Committee would like to thank the congregation for partnering with us to seek first the kingdom of God. Your faithfulness is inspiring and humbling.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Lessig and Cristine Waldron, Co-Chairs

Angela Billings Diane Billings Pam Brown Linda Felt Kerstin Forrester Lynn Hescheles Andy Krofina
Karen Ryker (friend) Tom Stokes Jeff Wong

EWCC Outreach Committee Treasurer's Report for 2022

INCOME:

Church Budget	\$ 9,000.00
One Time Surplus	3,300.00
Rainbow Railroad Collection	565.00
Individual Donations (includes \$5,000 Carlyle Charitable)	8700.00
<u>TOTAL INCOME:</u>	<u>\$ 21,565.00</u>

EXPENSES:

Blankets + Program - Church World Service	100.00
Jazz Sunday – Rainbow Railroad	765.00
TEEG - Woodstock Fuel Assistance Fund (and \$168 for PJs in 2021)	950.49
ACCESS No Freeze Shelter & Homeless Shelter	562.98
Cathedral of the Beloved	200.00
Quiet Corner Cares (Sober House in Putnam)	300.00
Back Bay Mission	300.00
IHSP (Daily Bread \$200, extra in 2020 due to pandemic)	750.00
Sunshine House Assistance	4,200.00
SWBC - Guatemala Mission	300.00
Day Kimball Healthcare (Palliative Care, Hospice, Homecare)	600.00
Holy Joe's Café - Memorial Day	100.00
World Vision – Sponsored Child	624.00
Camp Quinebaug	125.00
East Woodstock Cemetery Fund	125.00
East Woodstock Library	125.00
Scholarships (2 in 2020)	1,000.00
Treehouse Foundation (Tom Stokes)	125.00
Why Me & Sherry's House	125.00
Putnam Area Refugee Resettlement	1,027.55
Lancaster Seminary	125.00
The Underground CT (Human Trafficking Prevention)	300.00
NE CT Salvation Army	200.00
WAIM	900.00
Gay-Straight Alliance Club at WA	200.00
Heifer International	120.00

Danielson Veteran's Coffeehouse (TVCCA)	250.00
Camp Care Kids	200.00
LGBT (Hadwen Church)	200.00
Northeast Placement Services (NEPS)	200.00
Silver Lake Campground	200.00
Thanksgiving Baskets	582.87
Hospice (Tree of Life Ceremony)	100.00
Muddy Brook Fire Department	100.00
Windham County 4-H Foundation	400.00
Central Village Congregational Church (Community Kitchen)	100.00
St. Luke's Guesthouse (Southbridge)	100.00
First Friday Food Fair	169.22
Community Kitchens, Inc.	1,728.97
Miscellaneous, Postage & Cards	118.00
Prayer Shawls (& Cards)	873.89
UCC Disaster Relief Fund	1,000.00
Woodstock Marathon	100.00
MSKCC	100.00
Domestic Violence Shelter	101.82
Homeless Shelter	1,150.00
Community Gifts/Needs	909.07
Ukrainian Students	250.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 23,183.86
Difference (Income less Expenses)	\$ (1,618.86)
Starting Balance	\$ 8,265.18
Ending Balance	\$ 6,646.32
Reserve	(500.00)
Amount Available to Spend:	\$ 6,146.32

Savings Account:	
Special Donation for Community Emergencies	\$ 10,000.00

Submitted by Kerstin Forrester, Treasurer Outreach Committee

CRADLE ROLL REPORT 2022

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 3 children listed on the Cradle Roll. They are:

Billings, Elliot Reid	09-23-19	Mondino, Jaxson Sky Myers	11-27-20
Hannon, Flint Grimm	08-07-20		

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 Director of Christian Education.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Tucker

Christian Education Annual Report 2022

To pay attention,
This is our endless and proper work.
- Mary Oliver

2022 was a blessing of rediscovering the world and reclaiming our community.

Anne Sorenson continued to lead the older kids from January through May; and while the numbers were inconsistent from week to week, we still saw lots of students over the months. I had a regular group of ages 3 to 10, with everywhere from one student to 10 during any given week.

We offered a Vacation Bible School but no one could do a whole week. So, we did a one evening event with two students from First Church and one student from our own church. All the young people had a great time and one even asked if we were going to do it again.

This fall I have been leading more of a one room schoolhouse for our Sunday School. We have ages 4 to 13 gathering together and often the older kids help the younger kids. Sickesses have plagued our community, so our numbers bounce from 3 to 13 students at any time. However, the students are learning and enjoying their time in our church, and that is what is important.

One big change is that almost every week the students are challenged to look up at least one Bible verse and read it out loud. We have a variety of Bible translations in our classroom. They enjoy the hands-on activity, and they are often amazed at how different the translations can be from one another. We have great discussions around vocabulary, and they are learning about the books of our holy text.

I have continued the Children's Chapel on the last Sunday of each month. Every month we discuss what elements we have in our chapel that are also in the main sanctuary. It is the perfect time for different adults to join us as 'shepherds' because they only need to be there, to help make it a safe church event.

In September Christine Armstrong helped me with communion education. That was our focus for all three weeks. On the first Sunday of October, the children came back into worship in order to participate in the Eucharist. We will continue to join in worship for the celebration of the Eucharist every month because this is another opportunity for the children to experience and get comfortable with more of "church time." We still leave the sanctuary after the Children's Story but now we review our knowledge of communion and our church manners before heading upstairs to the balcony. The children always have something to help with their wiggles, but the different vantage point in church is also fascinating for them.

I would like to thank the deacons for supporting this change, by preparing and offering communion for our balcony group. I know it is extra work for them and I appreciate their efforts.

I could not do this without the Christian Education Team, Sherry Magnan, Erica Hermonot, Vicki Noë, Heather Santos, Jennifer Griffin, Taryn Tomkins, and Emily Nester. They provide history and guidance for me every month and hands on support every week.

Respectfully submitted with Joy,

Jessica Weaver Boose
Director of Christian Education

Annual Report of Youth Ministry 2022

In 2022 the Middle School Youth Group continued to meet twice a month. There were usually 5-6 students in attendance. Our time was spent reading and talking about the scripture reading from worship that week. We also played games and had snacks. One highlight was we picked up the trash that had blown in the East Woodstock Cemetery for Earth Day in April. The students enjoyed this activity. There were lots of interesting conversations about the cemetery and the people laid to rest there. For our last meeting of the school year, Tom Converse set up the Nine Square for us. It was a beautiful summer day. We enjoyed playing Nine Square, playing on the playground, and eating popsicles. Thank you to Jessica Weaver Boose, Tom Converse, and Jess Reed for chaperoning our meetings.

In March, the Middle School Youth Group hosted a baked potato bar with the help of our high school students. The youth group donated the money raised to the MLK39 Mural Project. The completed mural is on the YMCA Building in Putnam, CT. I encourage you to go check it out. The youth groups also helped with the Walking Taco and Cold Drinks Booth for the Fourth of July Jamboree. The students helped set up, sell the items, and clean up. It was an enjoyable day for volunteers and guests.

In August, I resigned as the Youth Group Director. Thank you to our congregation for supporting my youth ministry over the last nine years. I hope our church continues to support and pray for the youth of our church. It is important to them and their families.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Sorensen

LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY 2022

LBS held eight meetings during 2022 with an average attendance of 16 women at each meeting. In March we met to plan our events for the year; the major event is of course the Holly Fair.

In April Dee Harless made a very informational presentation about Roseland Park - its history and present, replete with pictures and mementos. LBS made a \$500 donation to help support this Woodstock treasure. With Spring in full progress, we held a garden plant swap in May and Faith Armstrong provided us with a formal tea celebration. We also agreed to supply a potted plant for each of our school children on Children's Day in June.

We held our annual meeting in June at Point Breeze Restaurant in Webster with a delicious luncheon. After our hiatus in July and August, we returned to Fellowship Hall for a Potluck lunch. Pastor Sue shared beautiful photos and details of her sabbatical.

At our October meeting we remembered our dear friend, Doris Benton, who passed away in September. We shared memories of Doris and Pastor Sue led us in reading Psalm 23 and read the poem "Afterglow". We also finalized plans for the Holly Fair.

November 5 dawned as a beautiful warm day for our Holly Fair. We had a busy and successful day sharing fellowship with our many visitors. Financial results were amazing as we grossed \$9,534.65; netted \$9,204.85! At our November meeting we decided to appropriate \$3,000 to the EWCC General Fund and \$7,000 to Refurbishment efforts. Our major event was to celebrate Dot Hill's 90th birthday.

Our Christmas party was held on December 14 at Pastor Sue's home. We had another major birthday celebration - Lorene Matsen's 91st birthday!

During the year LBS sends lots of cards to members of our community. Thank you, Marian Hollowell who takes care of this outreach.

Please remember that **everyone** is welcome to attend our meetings. There are no membership requirements for joining LBS. Just come and share fellowship and fun.

Kerstin Forrester, President

Mary Ellen Blake, Vice President; Marian Hollowell, Secretary; Susan Converse, Treasurer

LBS 2022 Annual Report of Receipts and Expenditures

RECEIPTS:

Holly Fair Net Profit	\$ 9,290.55
Monthly Meeting Donations	<u>102.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 9,392.55

EXPENDITURES:

EWCC General Fund	\$ 2,000.00
Garden Gate Flowers	129.95
Children's Day Flowers	48.19
Donation to Roseland Park	<u>500.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,678.14

The LBS has these commitments for upcoming year 2023:

Donation for Annual Meeting Breakfast	\$ 500.00
General fund	3,000.00
Painting of Sanctuary	5,000.00
Sound System	4,500.00
Refurbishment Committee	7,000.00

Susan Converse, LBS Treasurer

Jamboree Report 2022

After two years as a virtual event because of COVID-19, the Jamboree returned as an in-person event this year. When the Committee first met, we realized that we were going to need to rethink some of the features that were offered in previous years. It was decided that the Chicken BBQ (done with the help of the Muddy Brook Fire Department) would be eliminated, and hamburgers and the Hosmer Mountain beverages would not be offered. Pulled Chicken, Sausages with peppers and onions, and Walking Tacos were added. There were also process changes that took place in Attic Treasures, recruiting volunteers, and ordering the necessary supplies for the event. The Facebook/online fundraising campaign that was started in 2020 continued.

The 2022 Fourth of July Jamboree began with a little uncertainty in the air. With a beautiful summer day and one of the largest crowds we have had in the history of the event, the Jamboree had a very successful year. \$15,204.33 was raised with food bring in \$7,860.27, Attic Treasures \$7,273.30 and Books at \$2,412.00. Some booths had a historic record year like Strawberry Shortcake at \$2,605.92 and Snow Cones at \$624.20.

The atmosphere was fueled with positive energy and many of the attendees were very thankful the event had returned. We had many new visitors who noted the event would become a family tradition. Our guests enjoyed the remarkable musicians providing entertainment, hayrides, children's games, frog jumping, parade, firemen's water polo, organ pops, and the cake walk. The Attic Treasures, Silent Auction, and Book tent had a steady stream of people throughout the day. Strawberry Shortcake, We-Lik-It Ice Cream, Snow Cones, Hotdogs and Sausages, Pulled Pork and Chicken, Baked Goods and Coffee, and Walking Tacos fed our hungry crowd.

The Jamboree continues to offer the opportunity to make memories and traditions that will never be forgotten. The success of this event would not happen without the hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm of the MANY volunteers that work before, during, and after the event. Thank you to all for helping to continue to offer this tradition to our local community and beyond.

Lynn Looby
DeEtta Spalding
Co-Coordinator

Church Historian Report – 2022

This has been an interesting year as we decide to venture out. Our church has seen things open up and people begin to return to Sunday services. We also have two new additions to availability of the Sunday service, Facebook and YouTube. The advantage is that you're not mixing with a crowd of people and can be in your pjs.

January we were back in the Sanctuary for Communion and the celebration of Epiphany. We welcomed our new Christian Ed Director, Jessica Weave Boose. Greg Billings is taking over the job of climbing our Spruce tree to make the star workable. We now also have a new camera for the online services, thanks Jeff Wong. Of course, it wouldn't be right if we didn't celebrate Star Sunday with each one getting a star word for the New Year. Youth Group met again for fellowship, snacks and reflection. Our Council took a survey to do away with the Trumpet and guess what – it's not happening as over 81% of respondents voted to keep it available. Now going forward, the February Trumpet is being combined with January because of the Annual Meeting prep.

In February we opened the month with communion, and it was a very quiet month. Our hand bells have moved up to the west side balcony and it really is quite a different but lovely sound. We celebrated our Heidi Tucker's own twentieth anniversary at EWCC as Office Manager.

March opened with Ash Wednesday and then monthly communion the next Sunday. This year advent dealt with the question, "How do we pray?". Each Sunday we learned about different prayers, Lord's, Pilgrim, and Serenity. The women had their retreat at Camp Wightman. The Youth had their Baked Potato Bar which had all kinds of toppings. Outreach Committee kept busy with donations to various causes. Youth Group continued their meetings on Sunday afternoons.

In April the cold weather left us somewhat as we celebrated communion and prepared for Easter. Men's Choir gave us *The Palms* on Palm Sunday and services were held for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Easter Sunday was beautiful as the sanctuary had daffodils, hyacinths, and tulips at the pulpit. Youth Group completed an Earth Day Project and it was announced that the Jamboree will be back in-person this year. Two scholarships for seniors were announced.

May found us celebrating communion with guest pastor Dr. Denise Esslinger while Pastor Sue was in Iona Scotland. The following Sunday found us worshiping in the Celtic tradition. Next our Confirmation class led worship with the theme Conflict and Peace. Music Appreciation Sunday was the following Sunday. The LBS ladies did a "Garden Swap", interesting plants.

June opened with the celebration of communion on a nice spring day. The following Sunday was Children's Day. This is the time of year when we hear about all the young members who are graduating. This year we had four from the Eighth Grade, thirteen from high school, five from college and one with a masters. Pastor Sue took part in a Pentecostal Preaching Festival. The Jamboree's Attic Treasures started its collection of items to sell. The Youth Group celebrated the end of year with games and ice cream.

July/August is split with the Hill Church, our congregation went to them in July and they came to us in August. Communion was served the beginning of each month. Tuesdays at Twilight, Christian Worship in the Celtic Tradition were held at Roseland Park. The front of the Chapel has a new look! Out with the old shrubs and in with the new. How nice it looks.

Our last union service was held in September on Labor Day Sunday, followed by Rally Day to sign up for Sunday School. It was announced that Ann Sorensen was retiring as Youth Director. Dot Hill and Nancy Young, who were collators for the Trumpet, were also retiring. This month we celebrated the baptism of Fitz, Otis, and Axel Lurvey sons of Megan and Andrew Lurvey. We joined together for a Memorial Service for Adelaide Coderre, grand-daughter of Barbara Hackett.

World Communion Sunday was celebrated in October. LBS ladies met with a potluck lunch to start the year, discussed the Holly Fair and elected new officers. A new member's class started. Pastor Sue announced plans to host women's breakfasts at her home on Saturday mornings. The Men's Breakfasts started up again. Outreach Committee kept busy. The Refurbishment Committee started up again after putting plans on hold during COVID

and a new look for the sanctuary is coming after much research is done. Marriages of Todd Blodgett and Jamie Leale on the fifteenth and Melissa Rebello and Jarrett Thomas on the twenty-ninth. A memorial service for Jason Lowe son of Lori Waterman was on the twenty-fourth.

November started with communion on Sunday and the following Sunday was Jeans Sunday to do some cleaning. Thanksgiving Sunday was also Pledge Sunday with collection for the Food Pantry. Closing out the month was the first Sunday in Advent. The Holly Fair was a success, and the ladies will give some of the money for the refurbishment. Pastor Sue continued doing Saturday Breakfast with groups of ten women at a time. Outreach Committee continued to do the Community Kitchen up at the Hill Church along with other projects.

As we entered the month of December, we celebrated the second of Advent with communion. A Quiet Christmas Service was done again this year along with the services on Christmas Eve with the early one for youth and the beautiful candlelight service later. Christmas fell on Sunday this year and the sanctuary was decorated with gorgeous Poinsettias all in red. Pastor Sue held a simple service with carols. LBS ladies went to Pastor Sue's home for the Christmas Party and brought pot-luck desert along with a cash cards for food or gas. A special meeting was called for the congregation to approve the purchase and upgrade the audio system.

Bringing this year to a close we stop and give thanks for those that have departed this earth for another journey. Though they'll be dearly missed, we will have many great memories that will linger for each of us. Those in our thoughts and prayers are Anne Dilko, George Brown, Doris & Norman Benton, Adelaide Coderre, Bernice Sheldon, Howard Edwards, Jason Lowe, Frank Converse and Dexter Young.

The Church on the Village Green wishes all our community a healthy and prosperous New Year with whatever adventures may await us.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Ellen Blake, Historian

Hospitality Committee Report 2022

The Hospitality Committee continues to serve our church family and community when the need arises. This past year we were asked to help with the funerals of Anne Dilko, Adelaide Coderre and George W. Brown. We are very appreciative of the members of our church who step up to offer their help with making food, helping in the kitchen, setting up and cleaning up. Many hands do make light work!

Thank you,

Diane Morin

Co-Chair, Hospitality Committee

Annual Report of the Book Discussion Group 2022

Here are the books we read in 2022. January: The Music of Bees by Eileen Garvin, February: Becoming Nicole by Amy Ellis Nutt, March: Grandma Gatewood's Walk by Ben Montgomery, April: Arborview by Karen Guzman, May: The Girl Who Wrote in Silk by Kelli Estes, June: The Distance Between Us by Reyna Grande, September: The Unlikely Yarn of the Dragon Lady by Sharon Mondragon, October: The Maid by Stephanie Land, November: Einstein and the Rabbi by Naomi Levy. We meet monthly for conversation and fellowship in the chapel of our church. We welcome new readers to the book discussion anytime for just one book that piques your interest or for several of the book selections.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Sorensen

Altar Guild Report – 2022

Do you want serve your church in a minimal amount of time? A wonderful way to do this is by giving a couple of months during the year and at other times when Pastor Sue may need the help after a service or a special event. We are responsible for the setup and cleanup of communion, the care of the candles used for various services and Sunday, changing of the paraments (altar and lectern cloths) for the different seasons, special services, ordering and set up of the flowers for the Easter and Christmas seasons, seeing there are flowers for the Sunday Service, and the use of the candelabras.

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

Thank you to all who served and dedicated your time and energy to a special activity of the church.

Members: Mary Ellen Blake, Laurie Edwards, Judith Schumacher

Respectfully submitted
Mary Ellen Blake, chair

COLLECTOR'S REPORT- 2022

For the period 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022

Pledges	\$165,759.58
Non-pledged donations	19,881.79
Loose Offering (cash in plate)	3,131.20
Prepaid Pledges 2023	10,025.00
Missions/Outreach	7,110.00
Memorials	800.00
Music	298.77
Christian Education	<u>160.00</u>
TOTAL	\$207,166.34

Respectfully Submitted,
John M. Davis, Collector

Auditor's Report 2022

On 3/27/2022 Karen McFarlin and I met with DeEtta Spaulding at her home to review the records and financial report of EWCC dated 1/1/2021 thru 12/31/2021. There were no indications of eros or omissions.

Thank you,
Emily Murphy

Annual Report of the Clerk - 2022

Number of Members who joined during 2022: 5

By letter of transfer: 1 By Confirmation: 0 By Confession of Faith: 4

New Members: David Norman, Denise Esslinger & Phil Parizeau and Harold & Colleen Bishop

Number of Members lost during 2022:

By letter of transfer: 0 By Death: 6 Other: 8

Funerals and Graveside Services

Memorials: Doris & Norman Benton, George Brown, Adelaide Coderre, Anne Dilko, Howard Edwards,
Jason Lowe

Although we did not hold services for them in 2022, we give thanks for the completed lives of
Frank Converse, Bernice Sheldon and Dexter Young

Baptisms

Child Baptisms: Fitz, Otis and Axel Lurvey

Weddings

Chelsea Zimmer & Robert Hartung, Todd Blodgett and Jamie Leale, Melissa Rebello and Jarrett Thomas

Society Committee Annual Report - 2022

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

- With the diligent efforts along with extensive knowledge from our Church Treasurer, DeEtta Spalding, the committee reviewed the Church's finances and personnel concerns on a monthly basis and prepared the Annual Budget for 2023.
- Reviewed Church pledging and helped with improvements in online giving and set up numerous online mechanisms along with the Collector John Davis who implemented them all flawlessly.
- Coordinating renting the Parsonage and working with the tenants to repair and manage upkeep of the property throughout the year. This year we installed a new Septic System and numerous small repairs to the boiler.
- Judith Wong organized Jean's Sunday again flawlessly with all chores being completed as hoped. Seth and DeEtta Spalding for all their support and clean up of the leaves of the entire grounds.
- Managed and maintained Employees concerns and exercised updated contracts.
- Furnaces were cleaned in both the Church and the Parsonage.
- Continue to work on upgrading the AV Equipment along with Jeff Wong's expertise. To improve our online presence and access to those who are unable to attend.
- The Refurbishment Committee, a subcommittee of Society headed by Judith Wong, has initiated many projects that will continue into 2023. Sconces were repaired, wiring and new boxes and painted fixtures were installed. New LED bulbs were replaced. Also, Glen Lessig and Leo Morrisette strengthened the floor joists in the Sanctuary. More Refurbishment Committee details are noted after this report.
- Asa Scranton organized getting quotes and scheduling and then having the Furnace replaced in the Brick Schoolhouse basement.
- Seth Spalding completed the repair of the 2nd egress repair on the back of the church.
- Glen and Christine Lessig along with David Morse replaced plants in front of the Chapel. Seth and DeEtta Spalding donated the mulch.

The work of the Society Committee is enhanced by the efforts of many church members and 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 2022 as she has for the last 18 years. She 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 donating her skills to us. Society is so grateful for her organization throughout the budget process and throughout the year!
- **DeEtta and Seth Spalding** for all their work cleaning up the leaves every fall. And for volunteering to take on many projects that come Society's way.
- **Glen Lessig** is always available for many Society projects along with miscellaneous issues that arise from everyone at the church. Mowing the grass, shoveling snow, organizing Parsonage repairs, the list goes on and on.
- **Christine Lessig** for her constant work on the plants, bushes, flowers and beds around the church throughout the year keeping them beautiful.
- **Heidi Tucker** for her exceptional office management skills. Helping us with duties and responsibilities that come about during the year.
- **Mark Billings and Dennis Kelly** for always being there to plow when a snowstorm hits the area and other chores they do when asked.
- **Pastor Sue** for guiding us throughout the year to make the right decisions for the church, supporting us and keeping us organized throughout our year.
- **Jeff Wong** for his unending work on our new AV Equipment project that is still continuing. His expertise has been necessary for us to even attempt this project!
- **Everyone** who has worked with us or with keeping our church facility in great shape and to continue to keep our church vibrant!

Respectfully Submitted:

Rick Place- Chairperson

DeEtta Spalding- Treasurer, Dawn Adiletta, Judith Wong, Glen Lessig, Brian Santos, Asa Scranton, Chuck Warinsky.

Refurbishment Committee, a subcommittee of Society **Annual Report - 2022**

The Refurbishment Committee is committed to the goal of **Refurbishing the Sanctuary and Narthex while being sensitive to the practical needs of the congregation, and while being true to the time periods of the Church.** The committee's intention is to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's worship spaces, incorporating the appropriate aesthetics that are true to the Church's blended architecture and history.

This year we offered three surveys to the congregation soliciting feedback on our Sanctuary and Narthex, feedback from visiting other churches, and feedback from those involved in providing music for our worship services. We continue to gather photos of other churches' sacred spaces for insights, determine wants/needs, estimate costs, imagine new possibilities, and prepare recommended directions for the congregation to consider.

We worked with historical and A/V consultants, structural and electrical contractors, carpeting and color consultants to explore potential refurbishment directions. We learned that projects in one area are often dependent and interwoven with other project areas. Using your survey responses and knowing that projects impact one another, we set up priorities:

- **Our first priority** was to look at the Sanctuary, Narthex, and balcony infrastructure to investigate and address any potential structural challenges before beginning cosmetic work. We learned that the cracks in the Sanctuary walls didn't indicate any underlying structural issues. With Society's help, several "soft

spots” in the Sanctuary floor were given additional support. We continue to pursue dais structure and choir loft area modifications to offer more flexibility for our worship services.

- **Our second priority** was to update our A/V equipment to enhance our worship capabilities and ensure that both in-person and online congregations can more easily hear and understand what is being said. We installed a new video camera to offer a more immersive online worship experience, and are moving forward to upgrade our audio equipment with a new digital mixer and amplifier, new speakers, added microphones and related audio accessories.
- **Both Sanctuary and Narthex lighting remain a strong priority** as lighting affects the appearance of paint and carpet colors. We continue to look for new ways to adjust and offer more light when and where needed, and completed the repair, painting, and rewiring of the original balcony sconces. LED bulbs offering more light with less wattage, and dimmable light switches were added to the balcony and choir loft sconces, and LED bulbs were added to the Sanctuary chandelier. Investigation into additional lighting options for the Narthex are ongoing.
- We continue to wait for estimates from contractors to present to the congregation. While contractors helped us imagine refurbishment possibilities, the historical grant that was received several years ago for repair of the exterior pillars will guide us as we comply with the agreement to not alter from the historical nature of the church building.
- Based on congregational feedback and related research, we expect to complete the following improvements:
 - Sanctuary, Narthex, and balcony painting and carpet replacement
 - Improved Narthex ceiling and sconce lighting
 - Relocation of the audio-visual control center to the back of the Sanctuary
 - Dedicated Sanctuary space for wheelchairs in the first row of pews
 - Dedicated Sanctuary space for families with small children in the back of the Sanctuary
 - Removal of the choir director opening on the back of the upper Sanctuary wall
- Noting that one of the keys to anticipating our Church’s future is the flexible use of our worship space, we are looking at other improvements that are both practical and enhance the blended architectural simplicity that is our heritage including:
 - Modifications to the left balcony risers to address the bell choir’s move to the balcony
 - Improved stair access to the choir loft area
 - Choir loft and dais area changes to offer worship flexibility
 - Adding a cross above the dais as a spiritual focal point
 - Displaying church historical objects, archival photos, or other sacred items

Support from the sanctuary fund and LBS allowed the committee to begin the audio-visual work, and Society funded the sconces and structural work. We have a modest budget for refurbishments but expect to consider a campaign to fund additional work.

Our thanks to the entire congregation for your support in achieving our goals this year. Special thanks to Ed Baldyga, Seth Spalding and family, clerk Christine Armstrong, all Society members, and especially our exceptional Refurbishment Committee members for their time, institutional knowledge, and dedication to our ongoing efforts.

We pray that our Church may always be a place where the people of God can gather and are aware of God’s presence and are reminded that our work on the Refurbishment Committee is a gift to future congregations as we make history today.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Wong - Chairperson, Dawn Adiletta, Donna Baldgya, Mary Ellen Blake, Charlotte and John Davis, Kerstin Forrester, Amy Hiller-White, Val Law, Glen Lessig, Dorrie and Asa Scranton, Alana Spalding, DeEtta Spalding, Jeff Wong

East Woodstock Congregational Church
Projected
Giving and Expense Summary
Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022
Proposed Budget Calendar Year 2023

	2022 Jan - Dec Actual	2022 Approved Budget	Actual vs Approved	Proposed 2023 Budget
Giving				
Pledges	\$ 178,603.32	\$ 172,855.00	\$ 5,748.32	\$ 167,655.81
Non Pledged	23,012.99	21,000.00	2,012.99	23,500.00
May Fund	463.95	750.00	(286.05)	750.00
Rent Other	650.00	600.00	50.00	600.00
Fund Raisers	15,204.33	6,500.00	8,704.33	15,000.00
Interest	484.60	500.00	(15.40)	500.00
Total Giving	\$ 218,419.19	\$ 202,205.00	\$ 16,214.19	\$ 208,005.81
Expenses		97%		100%
Christian Education				
Designated Funds	\$ (290.55)	\$ (325.00)	\$ 34.45	\$ (325.00)
Childcare Sunday	-	-	-	861.20
Christian Ed Director	10,765.33	10,762.37	2.96	11,086.83
Religious Education	396.55	725.00	(328.45)	725.00
Sr. High Youth Group	7,418.75	11,359.80	(3,941.05)	4,510.36
SR High Supplies	-	345.00	(345.00)	345.00
Sunday School Supplies	675.20	1,410.00	(734.80)	1,410.00
Total Christian Education	\$ 18,965.28	\$ 24,277.17	\$ (5,311.89)	\$ 18,613.38
Church				
Designated Funds	\$ (6,000.00)	\$ (6,000.00)	\$ -	\$ (7,000.00)
Capital Funding	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	1,500.00
Cleaning & Supplies	4,048.48	3,335.00	713.48	4,050.00
Communication	1,995.52	1,775.52	220.00	1,995.48
Electricity	3,331.16	3,600.00	(268.84)	3,600.00
Heat (C)	7,606.92	5,809.00	1,797.92	5,981.25
Insurance	8,889.75	8,314.00	575.75	8,999.00
Kitchen	308.61	350.00	(41.39)	350.00
Lawn care	870.00	427.50	442.50	1,177.50
Repairs & Maintenance	4,107.19	4,000.00	107.19	4,000.00
Rubbish	1,399.65	1,146.60	253.05	1,452.12
Workman comp	706.44	652.00	54.44	675.00
Total Church	\$ 28,763.72	\$ 24,909.62	\$ 3,854.10	\$ 26,780.35

East Woodstock Congregational Church Projected

Giving and Expense Summary

Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022

Proposed Budget Calendar Year 2023

	2022 Jan - Dec Actual	2022 Approved Budget	Actual vs Approved	Proposed 2023 Budget
Music				
Gift of Music	(300.56)	\$ (950.00)	649.44	\$ (810.00)
Bell Choir	209.21	425.00	(215.79)	600.00
Music & Dues	584.45	1,350.00	(765.55)	1,510.00
Music Director Salary	8,896.89	8,879.76	17.13	9,146.11
Music LRP	350.00	350.00	-	400.00
Organ & Piano Tuning	2,268.57	1,450.00	818.57	1,200.00
Organist Salary	9,647.75	9,666.53	(18.78)	9,940.36
Youth Choir	1,371.47	1,901.44	(529.97)	1,091.61
Substitute Organist	-	-	-	-
Total Music	\$ 23,027.78	\$ 23,072.73	\$ (44.95)	\$ 23,078.09
Office				
Designated Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Office Manager	10,214.94	10,568.59	(353.65)	10,887.52
Postage	525.08	550.00	(24.92)	550.00
Outside Financial Review	-	-	-	900.00
Subscriptions	1,527.25	1,000.00	527.25	1,500.00
Office Expense	1,101.96	1,200.00	(98.04)	1,200.00
Office Equip. Maint.	799.86	350.00	449.86	800.00
Total Office	\$ 14,169.09	\$ 13,668.59	\$ 500.50	\$ 15,837.52
Other				
Designated Funds	\$ (7,634.19)	\$ (7,034.19)	\$ (600.00)	\$ (3,182.77)
Altar Guild Supplies	23.72	375.00	(351.28)	375.00
Basic Missions/NE Conferen	5,500.00	4,900.00	600.00	4,900.00
Diaconate	1,187.05	820.00	367.05	900.00
Miscellaneous	761.62	523.77	237.85	500.00
Outreach	12,300.00	12,300.00	-	12,300.00
Conference Outreach	-	-	-	-
Religious Supply	564.70	475.00	89.70	475.00
Stewardship	579.64	600.00	(20.36)	600.00
Supply Minister	900.00	600.00	300.00	900.00
Windham Dues	395.00	395.00	-	395.00
Total Other	\$ 14,577.54	\$ 13,954.58	\$ 622.96	\$ 18,162.23
Parsonage				
Designated Funds	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rental Income	(14,970.00)	(14,400.00)	(570.00)	(15,600.00)
Real Estate	4,238.82	3,800.00	438.82	4,400.00
Maintenance	269.04	1,500.00	(1,230.96)	1,500.00
Total Parsonage	\$ (10,462.14)	\$ (9,100.00)	\$ (1,362.14)	\$ (9,700.00)

East Woodstock Congregational Church Projected

Giving and Expense Summary

Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022

Proposed Budget Calendar Year 2023

	2022 Jan - Dec Actual	2022 Approved Budget	Actual vs Approved	Proposed 2023 Budget
Pastor				
Designated Funds	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ (750.00)
Annuity Contribution	8,089.56	8,089.56	-	8,332.25
Health Insurance	29,294.00	29,194.00	100.00	30,807.00
Housing Allowance	20,400.00	20,400.00	-	20,400.00
Milage Reimbursement	2,999.88	3,000.00	(0.12)	3,000.00
Sabbatical	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,500.00
Salary	48,537.80	48,538.75	(0.95)	49,994.99
Seminars	567.00	1,200.00	(633.00)	1,950.00
Total Pastor	\$ 110,888.24	\$ 111,422.31	\$ (534.07)	\$ 115,234.24
Total Expense	\$ 199,929.51	\$ 202,205.00	\$ (2,275.49)	\$ 208,005.81
Operating Net	\$ 18,489.68	\$ -	\$ 18,489.68	\$ 0.00
Extrordinary Expense or Capital Projects				
Septic	(15,205.75)	\$ (15,570.00)	364.25	\$ -
Capital Setaside	15,875.13	\$ 15,570.00	305.13	\$ 6,800.00
Trees	(669.38)		(669.38)	
Chimney				\$ (6,800.00)
LBS Donation	3,991.36	\$ 4,200.00	(208.64)	\$ -
AV Equipment	(3,991.36)	\$ (4,200.00)	208.64	\$ -
Grant - Lily Foundation	5,352.17	\$ (10,567.43)	15,919.60	\$ -
Sabbatical Expense	(5,352.17)	\$ 10,567.43	(15,919.60)	\$ -
Total	-		-	-
NET Surplus/(Shortage)	18,489.68	\$ -	18,489.68	\$ 0.00

East Woodstock Congregational Church Cash Balance Report

	Deposits/ Interest Income		Checks/ Withdrawals		Ending Balance Dec 31, 2022	December 31, 2022 Account Balance by Designation		
	Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022	Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022	Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022	Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022		Undesignated	Designated	Total
Cash Balances								
Beginning Balance as of Jan 1, 2022								
Main Checking Account	\$ 58,940.71	* \$ 248,473.26	\$ (264,986.55)	\$ 42,427.42	\$ 32,255.87	\$ 10,171.55	\$ 42,427.42	
Petty Cash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CD's								
Cox Fund - Peoples Bank	3,000.00	-	-	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Undesignated - Citizens (3 cd's)	34,499.58	* 68.82	-	34,568.40	34,568.40	-	34,568.40	
Rental Deposit	1,204.73	100.62	-	1,305.35	-	1,305.35	1,305.35	
Money Market Fund								
Choir	100.00	-	-	100.00	-	100.00	100.00	
Christian Ed Scholarship Fund	4,910.33	4.96	-	4,915.29	-	4,915.29	4,915.29	
Cox Needy Fund	2,819.14	2.87	-	2,822.01	-	2,822.01	2,822.01	
Friends of Common	9,294.89	9.39	(669.38)	8,634.90	-	8,634.90	8,634.90	
Heritage Savings	5,531.34	5.58	-	5,536.92	-	5,536.92	5,536.92	
Lily Foundation Grant	6,929.58	1.42	(6,931.00)	-	-	-	-	
Long Range Planning	19,902.43	1,520.11	(15,205.75)	6,216.79	-	6,216.79	6,216.79	
Memorial Fund	35,671.41	836.37	(290.55)	36,217.23	-	36,217.23	36,217.23	
Music LRP	1,402.29	351.54	-	1,753.83	-	1,753.83	1,753.83	
Old Fidelity Account	5,982.71	6.06	-	5,988.77	-	5,988.77	5,988.77	
Sabbatical	1,049.88	1,001.06	-	2,050.94	-	2,050.94	2,050.94	
Sunday School	1,406.36	1.42	-	1,407.78	-	1,407.78	1,407.78	
Sub-total	95,000.36	3,740.78	(23,096.68)	75,644.46	-	75,644.46	75,644.46	
Total Cash	\$ 192,645.38	\$ 252,383.48	\$ (288,083.23)	\$ 156,945.63	\$ 66,824.27	\$ 90,121.36	\$ 156,945.63	

Respectfully Submitted by DeEtta Spalding, Treasurer at the Annual Meeting, January 29, 2023